GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3740
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2016
Facilities to Physically Handicapped
Kumar Shri Ashwini

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to provide all facilities like issue of physically handicapped certificate etc. to the handicapped children particularly mentally retarded children;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any special steps in this regard so as to bring the physically handicapped persons in the mainstream of the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI KRISHANPAL GURJAR)

(a) The Government has notified rules under the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 (PwD Act, 1995) for grant of disability certificate to person with each class of disabilities including mental retardation.

Further, the Government has already developed an Application Software which has been hosted on the National Informatics Centre (NIC) cloud to create a National database for persons with disabilities and also to issue Unique Disability Identity Card to each person with disability in the country. The application software also provides a web-based platform for issuance of disability certificate.

(b) & (c) The PwD Act, 1995 provides various entitlements for persons with disabilities and mandates the appropriate Governments for taking measures for their empowerment and inclusion in the society. The Government also implements various schemes for the empowerment of persons with disabilities. The important schemes are:
(i) Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and
Appliances (ADIP): Under ADIP Scheme the funds are released to various Implementing Agencies to assist the needy disabled persons in procuring durable, sophisticated and scientifically manufactured, modern, standard aids and appliances that can promote their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation by reducing the effects of disabilities and enhance their economic potential.

(ii) Scheme for Implementation of Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 (SIPDA): Under this scheme, assistance is provided to State Governments and to autonomous organizations/Institutions under Central or State Governments, for various activities relating to implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995, particularly for creation of barrier free environment for persons with disabilities.

(iii) The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities implements a Scheme, namely, Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) under which grant-in-aid is provided to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) for their projects relating to rehabilitation of persons with disabilities aimed at enabling persons with disabilities to reach and maintain their optimal, physical, sensory, intellectual, psychiatric or social functional levels.

(iv) Scholarship schemes for students with disabilities such as Pre-matric, Post-matric, Top Class Education, National Fellowship, National Overseas Scholarship

Further, with a view to provide more rights and entitlements to persons with disabilities, the Ministry has introduced the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2014 (to replace existing PwD Act, 1995) in Rajya Sabha on 07.02.2014. The Bill proposes to mandate the appropriate Governments to frame scheme/programme for benefit of persons with disabilities in the area of education, social security, skill development, sports and recreational activities so as to provide them an equitable environment for their empowerment and mainstreaming them in the society.

****